



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Frederick E. Shelton IV et al. : Paper No:  
Serial No. 10/674,236 : Group Art Unit: 3764  
Filed: September 29, 2003 : Examiner: Unknown  
For: SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING MULTISTROKE FIRING  
WITH OPENING LOCKOUT

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

MS Amendment  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicant herewith submits certain patent references and other information, which the Patent & Trademark Office may wish to consider in examining the above-identified application. The references and information are provided below, and are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

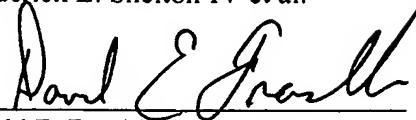
<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>INVENTOR</b>
5,482,197	01-09-1996	Green et al.
5,826,776	10-27-1998	Schulze et al.
6,010,054	01-04-2000	Johnson et al.

Pursuant to the waiver published in the Pre-OG Notice, dated July 11, 2003, no copies are provided herewith of U.S. patents cited. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search has been made or that no better art than the listed is available. It is respectfully requested that the information be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the present application.

The Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

Respectfully submitted,

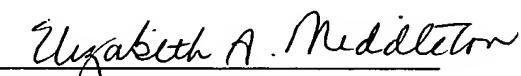
Frederick E. Shelton IV et al.



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that a copy of this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Regular US mail in an envelope addressed to MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2005.

  
Elizabeth A. Middleton  
Elizabeth A. Middleton



Substitute for Form PTO 1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>		
Sheet	1	of	1	Application No.	10/674,236	
				Filing Date	September 29, 2003	
				First Named Inventor	Frederick E. Shelton IV	
				Art Unit	3764	
				Examiner Name	Unknown	
				Attorney Docket No.	END5126.0517368	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner initials	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
		US-	5,482,197	01-09-1996	Green et al.	
		US-	5,826,776	10-27-1998	Schulze et al.	
		US-	6,010,054	01-04-2000	Johnson et al.	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published				

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE CONSIDERED \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.